

IN THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete listing of the claims pending in the present application:

1. (Original) A storage system comprising:
a drawer having a top surface;
a frame for accepting at least one drawer; and
a top plate for removably placing over the top surface of the drawer.
2. (Original) The storage system of claim 1, wherein said top plate has at least one hole for receiving a sample tube.
3. (Original) The storage system of claim 2, wherein each said hole has a removable insert.
4. (Original) The storage system of claim 3, wherein said removable insert has a through-hole for stabilizing the tube.
5. (Original) The storage system of claim 4, wherein said removable insert with said through-hole has a bore size decreasing in size from top to bottom.
6. (Original) The storage system of claim 4, wherein said removable insert has at least one flexible inner protrusion for stabilizing tubes of different diameter.
7. (Original) The storage system of claim 3, wherein said removable insert has a chamber open at the top.
8. (Original) The storage system of claim 7, wherein said removable insert with said chamber open at the top has a removable lid.
9. (Original) The storage system of claim 3, wherein said removable insert has a slide housing unit attached to the top of said insert.

10. (Original) The storage system of claim 1, wherein said drawer has a face plate.
11. (Original) The storage system of claim 8, wherein said drawer with said face plate has a card holder.
12. (Original) The storage system of claim 1, wherein said top plate may cover some or all of the top surface of said drawer.
13. (Original) The storage system of claim 1, further comprising a separator removably inserted into said drawer.
14. (Original) The storage system of claim 1, wherein said drawer has a bottom plate for supporting bottles and/or sample tubes.

15. (Withdrawn) A tube rack comprising:
a base;
at least one vertical support member; and
a top plate removably attached to said vertical support member, wherein said top plate has at least one hole for receiving a sample tube and wherein each said hole has a removable insert.
16. (Withdrawn) The storage system of claim 15, wherein said removable insert has a through-hole for stabilizing the tubes.
17. (Withdrawn) The storage system of claim 16, wherein said removable insert with said through-hole has a bore size decreasing in size from top to bottom.
18. (Withdrawn) The storage system of claim 16, wherein said removable insert has at least one flexible inner protrusion for stabilizing tubes of different diameter.
19. (Withdrawn) The storage system of claim 15, wherein said removable insert has a chamber open at the top.
20. (Withdrawn) The storage system of claim 19, wherein said removable insert with said chamber open at the top has a removable lid.
21. (Withdrawn) The storage system of claim 15, wherein said removable insert has a slide housing unit attached to the top of said insert.